

**EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Jerome Schaefer on 08/23/2011.

This Examiner's Amendment is being done to clarify the claims.

The claims have been amended as on the following pages:

**Listing and Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Currently Amended) A method of transmitting messages for resetting a first bus and associated topology information, across a network interconnecting bridge heads, said network being referred to as a transparent bridge, to one or more other buses, connected to said first bus by said transparent bridge, said method being executed on a bridge head, connected to said first bus and to said transparent bridge, wherein, during a series of reset messages, said bridge head transmits to said one or more other buses interconnected on said transparent bridge only a reset message from said series of reset messages signaling an alternation in the direction of change of the number of nodes on said first bus, in addition to transmission, upon expiration of a time out, of a received reset message, said timeout being started upon reception of said received reset message, said method further comprising the steps of:
  - storing the number of nodes of the bus connected to the bridge head and setting to zero an index of change of the number of nodes connected to the said bus;[.]
  - on receipt of a reset message, comparing ~~the~~ a new number of nodes connected to the said bus to the stored number of nodes;[.]
  - if the number of nodes does not alter, the reset message is an intermediate reset message and is not transmitted;[.]

- if the number of nodes is increasing whereas it was stable or was already increasing, the ~~intermediate~~ reset message is an intermediate reset message and is not transmitted<sub>2</sub>[[,]]
  - if the number of nodes is decreasing whereas it was stable or was already decreasing, the ~~intermediate~~ reset message is an intermediate reset message and is not transmitted<sub>2</sub>[[,]]
  - in other cases, the reset message is an intermediate reset message and is transmitted, then ~~we~~ return to the ~~first~~ storing step.
4. (Cancelled)
  5. (Cancelled)
  6. (Cancelled)
  7. (Currently Amended) A method of transmitting messages for resetting a first bus and associated topology information, across a network interconnecting bridge heads, said network being referred to as a transparent bridge, to one or more other buses, connected to said first bus by said transparent bridge, said method being executed on a bridge head, connected to said first bus and to said transparent bridge, wherein, during a series of reset messages, said bridge head transmits to said one or more other buses interconnected on said transparent bridge only a reset message from said series of reset messages signaling an alternation in the direction of change of the number of nodes on said first bus, in addition to transmission, upon expiration of a time out, of a received reset message, said timeout being started upon reception of said received reset message, said method

simulating the disconnecting of the bus generating the reset with the exception of the bridge head, said method further comprising the steps of:

- on receipt of a first reset, transmitting ~~this~~ the first reset accompanied by topology information simulating the disconnecting of the bus behind the said bridge head;
- thereafter, all the intermediate resets, except the last one, which arise in a given time are ignored, ~~this timeout~~ the time out being reset with each receipt of a new reset message;
- transmitting ~~this~~ the last reset and associated topology information.

8. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 3[[1]], wherein the buses are IEEE 1394 buses.
9. (Cancelled)
10. (Cancelled)

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the Japanese patent document to Watanabe from the IDS filed on 06/14/2011 does not disclose scenarios in which an intermediate reset message is not transmitted. Watanabe's invention transmits *reset messages* (self-network change information) whenever network changes are perceived (see paragraphs 0032-0035). Watanabe also does not disclose using reset to simulate topology changes.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JEFFREY M. RUTKOWSKI whose telephone number is (571)270-1215. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 7:30-5:00 PM EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kwang Yao can be reached on (571) 272-3182. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Jeffrey M Rutkowski/  
Examiner, Art Unit 2473